

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 1 and 3-6 as shown in the following listing of claims. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of monitoring the operation of ~~at least one~~ a microcontroller unit that is intended for at least one application and is associated with a system, by means of ~~at least one~~ a base chip, particularly a system base chip, characterized in that:

causing a reset of the microcontroller unit ~~is caused~~ if a reset condition is detected, wherein the reset condition is transmission of at least one special sequence, particularly at least one drive or access sequence assigned to the reset operation, to the base chip and the reset of the microcontroller unit is confirmed under an enquiry routine by checking whether the at least one special sequence has been successfully transmitted to the base chip; ~~and~~

activating a special mode of operation, particularly a flash mode of the base chip, ~~can be activated~~ once after the check has been made to see whether the special sequence has been successfully applied and after the reset operation, by allowing access to ~~at least one~~ a monitoring module that is associated with the base chip to take place in a manner which is simplified in comparison with the normal mode of operation of the microcontroller ~~unit~~; unit;

supplying a permanent energy supply from a battery unit to the monitoring module; and

switching a microcontroller supply unit of the base chip to enable or disable a temporary energy supply from the battery unit to the microcontroller unit.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that:~~ further comprising:

~~use is made of using~~ during the special mode of operation, ~~use is made of using~~ a special trigger code or a special trigger signal for the monitoring module that is different from the normal mode of operation; and

causing a fresh reset of the microcontroller unit ~~is caused by using~~ the normal trigger code or the normal trigger signal, to enable the special mode to be exited again.

4. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that:~~ further comprising:

making a distinction ~~can be made~~ between reset events that differ in relation to the operation of the microcontroller unit; and

logging said these different reset events and making said different reset events ~~are suitably logged and made known in at least one register unit by means of using~~ different register entries.

5. (currently amended) A base chip, particularly a system base chip, for monitoring the operation of ~~at least one~~ a microcontroller unit that is intended for at least one application, characterized by:

~~at least one~~ a reset unit for resetting the microcontroller unit, which reset unit is connected to said microcontroller unit, wherein a reset of the microcontroller unit is caused if a reset condition is detected, wherein the reset condition is transmission of at least one special sequence, particularly at least one drive or access sequence assigned to the reset operation, to the base chip and the reset of the microcontroller unit is confirmed under an enquiry routine by checking whether the at least one special sequence has been successfully transmitted to the base chip; ~~and~~

a microcontroller supply unit connected to the microcontroller unit,
wherein the microcontroller supply unit is permanently associated with a battery unit;

a switch connected to the microcontroller supply unit, wherein the switch is configured to switch the microcontroller supply unit to enable or disable a temporary energy supply from the battery unit to the microcontroller unit; and

~~at least one~~ a monitoring module that is associated with the microcontroller unit, wherein a special mode of operation, particularly a flash mode of the base chip, can be activated once after the check has been made to see whether the special sequence has been successfully applied and after the reset operation, by allowing access to the ~~at least one~~ monitoring module to take place in a manner which is simplified in comparison with the normal mode of operation of the microcontroller ~~unit, unit,~~ wherein the monitoring module is permanently associated with the battery unit so that the monitoring module receives a permanent energy supply from the battery unit.

6. (currently amended) A base chip as claimed in claim 5, ~~characterized by:~~ further comprising:

at least one register unit ~~that is provided~~ configured to allow for different reset events, ~~for logging and making to log and make known different reset events by means of~~ using different register entries.

7. (previously presented) A base chip as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that:

the monitoring module is triggerable in particular by means of at least one interface unit; or

to distinguish between the particular accesses to the monitoring module, different reset events can be marked by different trigger codes or trigger signals.

8. (previously presented) A base chip as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that there is provided between the monitoring module and the microcontroller unit at least one signal line for transmitting at least one trigger code or trigger signal that differs from the normal mode of operation of the microcontroller unit.

9. (previously presented) A system, and particularly a control system, characterized by at least one microcontroller unit intended for at least one application and by at least one base chip as claimed in claim 5.

10. (previously presented) Use of a method as claimed in claim 1 for monitoring the operation of at least one microcontroller unit intended for at least one application, in the electronics of motor vehicles.

11. (previously presented) The use of a method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the at least one application includes automobile electronics.

12. (previously presented) Use of at least one base chip as claimed in claim 5 for monitoring the operation of at least one microcontroller unit intended for at least one application, in the electronics of motor vehicles.

13. (previously presented) The use of at least one base chip as claimed in claim 12, wherein the at least one application includes automobile electronics.